

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Order No. 98-36
I.D. No. 1B830990SON

Requiring the City of Santa Rosa to
Cease and Desist from Discharging Waste contrary to
Requirements Prescribed by the
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Sonoma County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The City of Santa Rosa owns and operates the Laguna Subregional Wastewater Treatment, Reuse and Disposal Facilities. Advanced treated wastewater generated at the Laguna Treatment Plant is discharged to land or the Laguna de Santa Rosa and Santa Rosa Creek.
2. On June 22, 1995 the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. 95-18, NPDES Permit No. CA0022764 Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Santa Rosa, Laguna Subregional Wastewater Treatment, Reuse and Disposal Facilities. Order No. 95-18 includes the following Receiving Water Limitations:
 - C.1 The waste discharge must not cause the dissolved oxygen concentration of the receiving waters to be depressed below 7.0 mg/l. In the event that the receiving waters are determined to have dissolved oxygen concentration of less than 7.0 mg/l, the discharge shall not depress the dissolved oxygen concentration below the existing level.
 - C.2 The discharge must not cause the pH of the receiving waters to be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. Within this range, the discharge shall not cause the pH of the receiving waters to be changed at any time more than 0.5 units from that which occurs naturally.
 - C.3 The discharge must not cause the turbidity of the receiving waters to be increased more than 20 percent above naturally occurring background levels.
 - C.10 The discharge must not cause a measurable temperature change in the receiving waters.
3. On various dates from 1990 through 1997, wastes discharged from the City of Santa Rosa, Laguna Wastewater Treatment and Disposal System resulted in violations of the

above mentioned Receiving Water Limitations C.1, C.2, C.3, and C.10. These discharges threaten to continue to violate Order No. 95-18.

4. Pursuant to Section 15321, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, and Water Code section 13389, this is an action to enforce waste discharge requirements for the protection of the environment and as such is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq).
5. On March 26, 1998 after due notice to the discharger and all other affected persons, the Regional Water Board conducted a public hearing and evidence was received regarding this Cease and Desist Order.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the City of Santa Rosa shall cease discharging or threatening to discharge waste contrary to waste discharge requirements in accordance with the following time schedule:

1. On or before May 1, 1998 submit to the Regional Water Board a report that describes the cause(s) of the violations or threatened violations and the corrective actions, including an improved monitoring program, that can be taken to ensure compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations.
2. On or before October 1, 1998 implement the corrective actions to ensure compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations.

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on March 26, 1998.

Lee A. Michlin
Executive Officer